

**RESOLUTION 03-22
THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO
EXECUTE A NATIONAL SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH JASSEN AND THE
DISTRIBUTORS IN THE PENDING OPIOID LITIGATION**

Introduced By: Mayor Calvin Washington

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 53-19, the Town Council along with several other Maryland municipalities previously retained on contingency the law firms of Shapiro Sher Guinot & Sandler, P.A., and Theodora Oringher P.C., and Andrews & Thornton, in civil suit against those legally responsible for the wrongful manufacture and distribution of prescription opiates and damages caused; and

WHEREAS, national litigation regarding the impact of the distribution and use of Opioids has resulted in proposed settlement agreements with Jassen and the Distributors (Johnson & Johnson, Amerisource Bergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson ("National Settlements")), and special counsel recommends that the Town accept the offer to settle with Town of Forest Heights, slated to receive an amount of \$37,858.55, and participate with other Maryland jurisdictions in the State Subdivision Agreement negotiated by the Office of the Attorney General of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Attorney General has proposed a State-Subdivision Agreement to implement the distribution of funds to local governments in Maryland received through the National Settlements; and

WHEREAS, under the National Settlements and State-Subdivision Agreement, attached hereto as an exhibit, the Town will receive funds and be eligible for grants to combat Opioid use within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that entry into the National Settlements and State-Subdivision Agreement is in the best interests of the Town and its residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby approves and authorizes the Mayor to finalize and execute the National Settlements and State-Subdivision Agreement, incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit 1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Administrator shall further transmit the acknowledgement form to the Md. Attorney General through special counsel.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is further authorized to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Council and any related documentation including any necessary documentation or acknowledgements for obtaining said funding.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED this 24th day of January 2022.

APPROVED: By Resolution of the Town Council of The Town of Forest Heights, Maryland

ROLL CALL VOTE

YEA/NAY/ABSTAIN/ABSENT

WASHINGTON

YEA

BROWNSON

ABSTAIN

NOBLE

YEA

BARNES

YEA

HINES

YEA

LILLY

YEA

ATKINSON

ABSENT

ATTEST:

THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS,
MARYLAND

SIGNATURE ON FILE

Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk

SIGNATURE ON FILE

By: Calvin Washington, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify, as the duly appointed Town Clerk of the Town of Forest Heights, Maryland, that on the 24 day of January 2022 with 5 Aye votes and 0 Nay 1 Abstain votes the aforesaid Resolution 03-22 passed.

SIGNATURE ON FILE

Sherletta Hawkins, Town Clerk

[Exhibit 1- State Subdivision settlement agreement/MOU, with Exhibit A of said agreement, proposed State legislation, and the form needed to file with the Md. OAG/Special Counsel by the deadline]

J